



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
*1102 SE Quince Street • PO Box 47990
Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

November 14, 2001

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Carl Osaki, Board Member

RE: Update and Request to Revise Chapter 246-360 WAC,
Transient Accommodation Regulations

Background and summary

Transient Accommodations are defined as any facility such as a hotel, motel, condominium, resort, or any other facility or place offering three or more lodging units to travelers and transient guests (RCW 70.62.210). According to RCW 70.62.240 the State Board of Health shall adopt Transient Accommodation (TA) regulations outlining minimum health and safety standards for TA facilities. The Board last revised these rules in 1994.

The Department of Health has reviewed the TA Regulations and identified areas they consider in need of revision (see attached letter from Ron Weaver). Several of these areas may require substantive changes in the regulations and be controversial. Addressing health and safety requirements regarding methamphetamine production may require substantive changes in the regulations. Possible imposition of civil fines and minimum health and safety standards for homeless shelters and rustic resorts are two of the areas that are potentially controversial and could benefit from the Board's role as a convener of interested parties (see attached email from Bliss Moore).

Stakeholder input has been minimal up to this point, as evidenced by only one response to a DOH memo sent to approximately 1700 transient accommodation licensees and interested parties (see attached memo).

I was asked to evaluate the option of the Board delegating its authority to modify and adopt TA rules to DOH according to the Board's criteria for considering delegation of rules (see attached SBOH policy).

Board action recommended

Based on research and conversations with interested parties, the rule revision process may include substantive and controversial changes and therefore should not be delegated to the Department of Health at this time.



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The Board should designate me as the rule sponsor and direct its Executive Director to issue a CR101 indicating the Board's intention to consider revising the Transient Accommodation regulations.

Cc: Ron Weaver, Assistant Secretary, Health Systems Quality Assurance, DOH
Bliss Moore, Executive Manager, Facilities and Services Licensing, DOH
Ellen Haars, Transient Accommodation Program Manager, DOH

Attachments: Letter from Ron Weaver to State Board of Health, September 25, 2001
Memo to Transient Accommodation Licensees and Interested Parties, September 14, 2001
Email from Bliss Moore to Marianne Seifert, November 1, 2001
Washington State Board of Health Policy for Considering Delegation of Rules to the Department of Health